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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, applicants, through their attorney or agent, make of record the documents listed below.

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The above-cited documents are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (submitted in duplicate). Applicants submitted copies of these documents in United States application 09/430,822 (Filing date October 29, 1999) from which this

application claims priority. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) applicants have not provided copies of these documents herewith.

Applicants respectfully request that the above-cited documents be (1) fully considered by the Examiner during the course of the examination of this application and (2) printed on any patent issuing from this application. Applicants also request that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 duly initialed by the Examiner be forwarded to the undersigned with the next communication.

This Statement is submitted more than three months from the application filing date, but before the mailing date of the first Office Action. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, submission of this Statement requires no fee. However, if for any reason a fee is due, the Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this letter is transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

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